
CENTRAL REGION COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 6, 2003
12:30 p.m.

Presiding: Jane Reister Conard, Chair

Present: Edward Armour, Allan Ayoub, Cynthia Brothers, Jan Cook, Greg Diven, Deirdre Darby Duffin, Norman Fitzgerald, Representative Brent Goodfellow, Bev Graham, Bo Hall, Douglas Johnston, Kathy Meyer (for Russ Thelin), Kevin Schofield, Louie Silveira, Karen Silver, Melva Sine, Kerry Steadman, Dean Walker, Megan Wiesen, James Whitaker and Commissioner Gene D. White.

Excused: Charles Daud, John Hill, Paul Jackson, Russ Thelin, and Julie Zimmerman.

Absent: Susan Archibeque, Todd Henriksen, and John Hill.

Guests: John Sines, Monteen Gordon, Werner Haidenthaller and Steven Rosenberg.

Staff: Karla Aguirre, Kim Auberger, Leno Franco, Jane Gardner, Diane Lovell, Melissa Olsen, Jon Pierpont and Verene Froisland.

Call to Order & Announcements

Jane Reister Conard, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance.

Chairperson Conard announced that Brad Maughan had resigned and introduced James Whitaker, DWS Acting Regional Director. Ms. Conard then stated that she would be involved in the selection process for a new Regional Director.

Chairperson Conard welcomed back Cynthia Brothers who had been excused for several weeks due to a recent job change. Ms. Conard also welcomed Megan Wiesen back from maternity leave.

Ms. Conard introduced two new Council members; Bev Graham, Public Health Manager, replacing Elizabeth Heath and Melva Sine, CEO, Utah Restaurant Association. Steven Rosenberg, CEO, Liberty Heights Fresh was also introduced as a candidate for membership. Jane Conard then announced that Kevin Foley, UPS VP for Human Resources is considering a position on the Council and was unable to attend today's meeting.

The Chair also acknowledged Department of Rehabilitation District Directors Josh Sines and Kathy Meyer, representing Russ Thelin.

Councilman David Wilde and Ms. Heath have resigned from the Council and Chairperson Conard noted that they would receive plaques in appreciation for their service and membership contributions.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – Central Region Council meeting of Thursday, September 25, 2003, Executive Committee meeting of Thursday, October 9, 2003 and Youth Council meeting of Monday, August 11, 2003.

Karen Silver noted one correction to the Executive Committee meeting minutes of Thursday, October 9, 2003. On Page 1 under the Basic Needs Report change “soon” in the first sentence to “*next year*”.

Ms. Silver moved to approve all of the items listed under the Consent Agenda. Louie Silveira seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”. The motion passed.

Ratification of September 25, 2003 Action Items

- Approval of Minutes – Central Region Council meeting of Thursday, August 28, 2003 and Executive Committee meeting of Thursday, September 11, 2003.
- New Training Provider – Academy of Nursing

Deirdre Darby Duffin moved to ratify the September 25, 2003 action items as noted above. Ed Armour seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Basic Needs – Ms. Silver stated that she has been meeting with Sarah Brenna regarding the “Need Help” cards. The “Need Help” cards and content will be reviewed by a focus group. Ms. Silver continued by addressing the top two needs for the western area of Salt Lake. They are health and education/training. These issues will be discussed further with the Basic Needs Committee and a report will be given at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Marketing – Mr. Armour spoke concerning the 1000-Day Plan and noted that the economy is beginning to turn around. He then deferred to Kim Auberger to discuss the upcoming Marketing Campaign.

Ms. Auberger addressed some of the details of the soon-to-be-launched DWS Marketing Campaign, scheduled for kickoff in January. She also announced that Mr. Armour is the newest member of the Salt Lake/Tooele Employer Committee.

Training & Development – Norman Fitzgerald addressed the recently approved DWS Policy delineating the “Training Provider Approval Process”. The Committee expressed some concerns related to the “staff approval” authority and language included in the policy.

Allan Ayoub also addressed the recently approved “Training Provider Approval Process.” Under the “Loss of Eligibility” section it reads “...that provider may lose eligibility for a certain period of time...”. Mr. Ayoub feels that “*certain period of time*” needs to be more definitive.

Mr. Fitzgerald continued by stating that the Training & Development Committee denied the training provider application from Breakthrough Management Group. He then noted that no one appeared from Pioneer Health (provider applicant) to present its appeal and argue for consideration.

Facilities – Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the Tooele Employment Center is still on hold and the Metro Employment Center is waiting on staff.

Youth Council – Bo Hall stated that the Youth Council met on Monday, October 20th. He noted that the Utah WIA I-B Performance Measures are continually improving because the Youth EmployAbility Services (YES) Program staff have worked very hard to address program weaknesses and improve outcomes. Mr. Hall then stated that the WIA Youth Service Priority System was also discussed, specifically the 5% waiver (income disregard) for eligibility. The 5% waiver for eligibility is temporarily on hold, which means that every student needs to meet income guidelines. Concern was expressed that there may be youth with disabilities and

multiple barriers that are denied service due to income levels. Having the 5% window closed seems to be a problem. This issue is under review statewide and there is a slight possibility that the 5% waiver may be re-instituted in the near future.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included a UPS presentation and a Labor Market Information (LMI) briefing on Utah's Economic Outlook. A 1-minute YES Program promotional video was also debuted at the Youth Council meeting. Bo Hall indicated that youth enrolled in the YES Program were featured in the video and it will be aired at a future Council meeting.

Veterans Services Presentation

Monteen Gordon, DWS Director of the State Council Affairs & Veteran's Services, began her presentation stating that the Veteran's Program is very important and valued by state and national government. Ms. Gordon distributed handouts that addressed the Roles and Responsibilities for Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) staff. Ms. Gordon then stated that it is her goal is for a Utah Employment Center or a Disabled Veteran's Representative to receive the Mark Sanders Award - an award given annually by NASWA to a DVOP or Employment Center that has provided extraordinary and exceptional service to disabled Veterans.

Mr. Fitzgerald thanked Ms. Gordon for her presentation. Mr. Fitzgerald also thanked the Council for putting the Veterans Services Presentation on the agenda.

Budget Primer

Werner Haidenthaller, representing John Nixon (DWS Finance Director) gave a PowerPoint overview of the portion of the state budget for which that the Council has stewardship. He explained the various amounts and categories of funding (Federal /91.5% and State General Funds /7.6%) administered by the department for training, childcare, and public assistance, medicaid, etc. After his presentation, Mr. Haidenthaller answered questions from the Council.

Regional Director's Report

James Whitaker, Acting Region Director, stated that he is pleased to see the good leadership at the Employment Centers. He then noted that having the new West Valley City Employment Center has made a positive difference.

Mr. Whitaker then noted that Jon Pierpont, Manager over eligibility services in the Central Region, had a report prepared for the Council. However, due to time constraints, his report will be deferred to a future meeting.

Old Business

Diane Lovell reminded the Council of the holiday luncheon and reception scheduled in conjunction with the next Council meeting on Thursday, December 11th. The Youth Council and State Legislators will be invited to attend. Ms. Lovell indicated that Raylene Ireland has confirmed and will share a few remarks about the department.

New Business

Mr. Ayoub raised a question regarding funding sources and planned vs actual expenditures. Chairperson Conard replied by stating that his question will be addressed at the February 26th meeting with the Mid-year Performance Review.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.